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LUMBERTON - The township will receive \$32,300 in federal grant money to purchase fire equipment.

The funds were awarded by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency under the Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program. The grant enhances the ability of fire departments to maintain 24-hour staffing and helps assure communities have adequate protection from fire and fire-related hazards.

Congressman John Adler, D-3rd of Cherry Hill, has helped Lumberton and other Burlington County towns secure the federal money. Last year he hosted several workshops to ensure local public safety departments were informed about the federal grant process. He also voted to pass the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, which provides \$800 million for Assistance to Firefighters grants.

"Our firefighters put their lives on the line every day to protect our communities," Adler said in a statement. "Burlington County residents deserve to get their fair share of federal dollars to keep them safe."

According to officials at the Lumberton Fire Company No. 1, the funds will be used to pay for a diesel exhaust emissions removal system, which will help clean the air in the fire station on Main Street, making it safer for firefighters.

"This funding will help support the brave men and women who serve and protect our community," Fire Chief Jim Rossell said. "Congressman Adler has been supportive of our local emergency response personnel and we look forward to our continued work together."

Adler also recently announced that Moorestown had received a \$169,000 firefighters grant and the Vincentown Fire Company in Southampton had received nearly \$9,000.